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97084/00013
(STEVENS 3.0-002 (CIP))

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of
Xiaoguang Meng, et al.

Group Art Unit 1724

Examiner: To be Assigned

Serial No.: 10/803,170

Confirmation No. 4161

Filed: March 17, 2004

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For: APPARATUS AND METHOD
FOR WATER TREATMENT BY A
DIRECT CO-PRECIPITATION/
FILTRATION PROCESS

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Mail Stop Amendment
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, Applicants and their attorney respectfully request that the following patents, foreign patent publications, and other publications, copies of which are attached hereto, be made of record in the official United States Patent and Trademark Office file relating to the present application. The citation of the following patents, foreign patent publications, and other publications should not be construed as an admission that they constitute statutory prior art with respect to the present invention.

U.S. Patents

3,511,488
4,152,143
4,201,573
4,422,943
4,303,441
4,724,084
5,403,490
5,660,733

Publications

Andre DuPont; "Lime Treatment of Liquid Waste Containing Heavy Metals, Radionuclides and Organics, National Conference on Management of Uncontrolled Hazardous Waste Sites", 7th edition, Production Engineering, April 1997, pp. 84-88. 57.

L.E. Early et al., "Chromate Removal from Aqueous Wastes by Reduction with Ferrous Ion", Environ Sci. Technol., 1988, Vol. 22, No. 8, 1988. pp. 972-977.

Robert C. Cheng et al., "Enhanced Coagulation for Arsenic Removal", J. AWWA, 1994, Vol 86(9), pp. 79-90.

Mark M. Benjamin et al., "Metals Treatment at Superfund Sites by Adsorptive Filtration", EPA/540/R-93/515, 1992.

D. Jarog et al., "Adsorption and Filtration with Oxide-Coated Granular Activated Carbon", American Chemical Society Meeting, April 5-10, 1992; pp. 711-714.

Marc Edwards et al., "Adsorptive Filtration Using Coated Sand: A New Approach for Treatment of Metal-Bearing Wastes", Journal WPCF, 1989, Vol. 61, No. 6, pp. 1523-1533.

John F. Martin et al., "Demonstration of Microfiltration Technology", J. Waste Management Association, 1991, Vol 41., No. 12, pp. 1653-1657.

W. Y. Chen et al., "Recovery and Recycle of Metals From Wastewater With a Magnetite-Based Adsorption Process", Research Journal WPCF, 1991, Vol. 63, No. 7, pp. 958-964.

Dimitris Dermatas et al., "Removal of Arsenic Down to Trace Levels by Adsorptive Filtration", 2nd Specialized Conference on Pretreatment of Industrial Wastewaters, 1996, pp. 191-198.

Gordon P. Treweek, "Optimization of Flocculation Time Prior to Direct Filtration", Journal AWWA, 1979, pp. 96-100.

Michael R. Collins et al., "Evaluation of Factors Affecting Performance of Direct

Filtration", J. Environ. Eng., 1987, Vol. 113 (2), pp. 330-334.

John R. Bratby, "Optimizing Manganese Removal and Washwater Recovery at a Direct Filtration Plant in Brazil", J. AWWA, 1988, pp. 71-81.

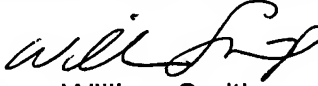
Xiaoguang Meng, " Effect of Component Oxide Interaction on the Absorption Properties of Mixed Oxides", Ph. D. Thesis, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Syracuse University, 1993.

In order to facilitate the Examiner's citation of the patents and patent publications listed above, Applicants' attorney has completed United States Patent and Trademark Office Form PTO/SB/08a. The completed form is attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

It is believed that no fee is due in connection with the submission of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. If any such fees are due, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 501402.

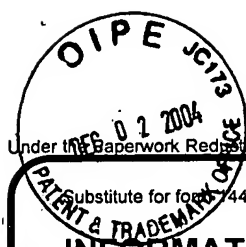
Respectfully submitted,

McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP


By: William Smith
Reg. No. 46,459

McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP
Four Gateway Center
100 Mulberry Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102
Tel. No. (973) 624-4444, Ext. 4368
Fax No. (973) 297-3767

NWK2: 1237588.01



Substitute for form 7449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known		
				Application Number	10/803,170	
Sheet		1	of	3	Filing Date	March 17, 2004
					First Named Inventor	Xiaoguang Meng et al.
					Art Unit	1724
					Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
					Attorney Docket Number	97084/00013 (Stevens 3.0-002)(CIP)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 3,511,488			R.A. Stubblefield	
		US- 4,152,143			Kausel et al.	
		US- 4,201,573			Nissen	
		US- 4,422,943			Fender et al.	
		US- 4,303,441			Lamisse	
		US- 4,724,084			Pahmeier et al.	
		US- 5,403,490			Desai	
		US- 5,660,733			Deskins	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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<p style="font-size: 24pt; margin: 0;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p style="font-size: 12pt; margin: 5px 0;">(use as many sheets as necessary)</p>			<p>Complete if Known</p>													
Sheet	2	of	3	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Application Number</td> <td>10/803,170</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>March 17, 2004</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Xiaoguang Meng et al.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td>1724</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>To Be Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>97084/00013 (Stevens 3.0-002)(CIP)</td> </tr> </table>	Application Number	10/803,170	Filing Date	March 17, 2004	First Named Inventor	Xiaoguang Meng et al.	Art Unit	1724	Examiner Name	To Be Assigned	Attorney Docket Number	97084/00013 (Stevens 3.0-002)(CIP)
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OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		ANDRE DUPONT; "Lime Treatment of Liquid Waste Containing Heavy Metals, Radionuclides and Organics, National Conference on Management of Uncontrolled Hazardous Waste Sites", 7th edition, Production Engineering, April 1997, pp. 84-88. 57.	
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<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%; padding: 5px;">Examiner Signature</td> <td style="width: 70%;"></td> </tr> </table>	Examiner Signature		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%; padding: 5px;">Date Considered</td> <td style="width: 70%;"></td> </tr> </table>	Date Considered	
Examiner Signature					
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PTO/SB/08B (08-03)

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

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Sheet 3 of 3

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		MICHAEL R. COLLINS et al., "Evaluation of Factors Affecting Performance of Direct Filtration", J. Environ. Eng., 1987, Vol. 113 (2), pp. 330-334.	
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